

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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FROM ANDREWS FOR WILGIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

REF: STATE 154846

1. GOLDMAN OF JDC TOLD US JUNE 19 THAT THE INFORMATION IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE REFTEL CONCERNING THE FAVORABLE EXCHANGE RATE AND THE GOH DONATION IS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE AND SHOULD BE CLOSELY HELD.

2. TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE PROPOSAL - COMMERCE HAS INFORMALLY ADVISED US THAT A PROPOSAL WHICH BEWT PUT FORWARD FOR COMMERCE'S FY 1980 BUDGET "WISH LIST" FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICES IN BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, AND PEKING HAS SURVIVED THE FIRST COMMERCE-WIDE CUT. WHILE THE PROPOSAL IS STILL FAR SHORT OF RECEIVING FINAL COMMERCE APPROVAL, OUR FRIENDS

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IN COMMERCE FELT THEY SHOULD ALERT US TO IT TO GET OUR INITIAL INFORMAL VIEWS AND THOSE OF THE POSTS CONCERNED. WHAT BEWT HAS IN MIND ARE MODEST OPERATIONS ALONG THE LINES OF THE PRESENT WARSAW TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. THEY PROPOSED FUNDS (WE DON'T KNOW THE AMOUNT) FOR WHAT THEY FIGURED WOULD COVER OPENING OFFICES PHYSICALLY SEPARATE FROM THE CHANCERIES AND A TOTAL OF SIX EMPLOYEES (AMERICANS

AND LOCAL STAFF) FOR ALL THREE OFFICES. WE LIKE THE IDEA IN PRINCIPLE AND WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR VIEWS VIA THIS CHANNEL. INCIDENTALLY, WHILE COMMERCE IS NOT WEDDED TO THE CONCEPT OF TDO'S BEING LOCATED AWAY FROM THE CHANCERIES, THEY BELIEVE THIS IS PREFERABLE, ALTHOUGH RECOGNIZING IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE COSTLY. WE AGREE, BUT, WITH REGARD TO BUDAPEST, WE DID NOTE TO THEM THE THEORETICAL POSSIBILITY OF LOCATING A TDO ON THE SIDE OF THE CHANCERY BUILDING IN THE AREA WHERE THE COMMISSARY IS NOW LOCATED. VANCE

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